

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/646,803

Examiner

Steven Kau

Applicant(s)

CURRY ET AL.

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to December 4, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-18 and 22-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

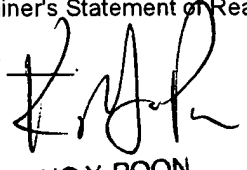
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other


KING Y. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kevin K. Jones on December 21, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 21, a dependent claim to Claim 1, is cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 4-18, and 22-30 are allowable. Claims 1, 22 and 29 are drawn to a method, an image forming device and a device having a halftoner memory for determining moire zones and moire amplitude in a full field of an image and a folded field of a halftoner memory; comparing moiré phase angle between full field and fold field; adjusting high addressability units of the memory to reduce moire intensity profile of the image on a halftone cell based on the comparison with a threshold to minimize moire; and modulating a light beam to generate an output image in which moiré has been minimized.

Claims 2, 4-18 are dependent claims of Claim 1, and claims 23-28 and 30 are dependent claims of Claim 22 and Claim 29, respectively.

Applicant's remark/argument on December 4, 2007 is persuasive.

Applicant presents remark/argument on pages 6 and 7 that "none of the applied references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a method for minimizing moire in a halftoned image formed using a halftoner, including determining moire zones in a full field of the image, determining moiré amplitude for the full field of the image and a folded field of a halftoner memory, comparing full field moire phase angle zones to moiré phase angle zones in the folded field of the halftoner memory, adjusting high addressability units of the halftoner memory to reduce a moiré intensity profile of the image on a halftone cell basis based on the comparing, wherein the reduced moiré intensity profile is below a threshold, and thus moiré is minimized, and modulating a light beam to generate an output image having the minimized moiré, as recited in claim 1" and "as acknowledged by the Patent Office in the reasons for allowance of claims 22 and 29 on page 11 of the Office Action, the features of claims 22 and 29 are neither taught nor suggested by Granger, or Amidror. Thus, as claim 1 now includes the allowable features of claims 22 and 29, claim 1 is also considered to be in condition for allowance" is persuasive.


The closest prior arts in the record are Granger (US 4,916,545) and Amidror et al (Amidror) (US 5,995,638). Either by Granger, or Amidror individually, or combining Granger with Amidror do not teach or suggest the above claimed limitation. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 4-18, and 22-30 are allowable.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven Kau whose telephone number is 571-270-1120 and fax number is 571-270-2120. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


S. Kau
Patent Examiner
Division: 2625
December 21, 2007


KING Y. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER